Via di S. Isidoro 1872

Rome Sunday March 24th

My dear Tom

How I should like to play "The Heavens are telling" with you today. I could get over this desire of coming down to Harrow for it yet I must be contented. I can hear it going in my fancy. and since little Charles plays it with you I will be a Beethoven with greater pleasure than Ronald & Percy with best step. If you are done, & I am doing with it go to then we are playing a Duett and then both of Duetts for that I am very sure the best orchestra all are happy alike. Then I have nothing left to desire but to come 500 Miles every third day to taste my Mothers fat boy's cake me if I thank the voyage is worth it. But I could have a look at you all now and then I'd be content.

I am to acknowledge the Album you have sent me with great pleasure. For I am still the same & I hope you have sent me some of your own compositions that I may play them and find an [illegible] with my dear Boy that Tom. Will you & any thing that you think I should like. But I know I should like every thing you wrote me a letter of Notes in small hand. Charles will read them. I should be delighted. [illegible] I am now a great admirer of Shakespeare "Tempest" "Julius Caesar" and I don't know how many times. If you have read it in Long vacation you write tell me if you have & like it. We have a Lawn Tennis of Mrs Ogilvie's I have heard some parts but not the whole

You may entertain of the Rev. finish doing Alexander or an [illegible] of the dangerous disease he has to go to Venice. I am going with Mr Bartlett a painter of great talent. I intend to work very hard to depart from the many fine pictures there. I make animal a pic in it

This Forum is the most choice place in the world for pictures. I expect to observe great improvement from the visits — The offering had set in here at last and most divinely — for seven weeks the sky has scarce had one fine day but one of them will be Paradise — She had a dark affair here the other night — two Italian Models and my old Peasant at the door and said they would Murder each other — I in an instant sprung out of bed (which is a very strange beginning) leaped down the stairs in search of them halfway down the street — It turned out to be a mistake — but the family who live under me were much alarmed — and a Lady opposite who is a beautiful Musician stood at the Door wringing her hands in great fright and crying when in the morning returning the Model from the street stark naked — and suddenly the Lady and her sister forgot their fears — and set up a laugh that I thought would have killed them — but I assure you the Model had a droll effect — We never hear of thieves here — I glance to write free from them — We live here uninterrupted by robbers or Laws — the number of English visitors here have altered the very Laws — that by saying of "When you are at Rome you must do as Rome does" is all my eye — I suppose there is no place where we are our own masters so completely — The Carnival here was fine — for two days all the People break as pleases and "kick" hell's delight — the Masks from morning not knowing each other — at first I had little desire to go — but the last day put me up to it had a battle — You must throw them again — Plums — Comfits — at each other — and plentifully too — Many

of my English friends had been there each day and told me
I was a coward so that I determined on showing my valor
— I was invited by some English Ladies to accompany them in an
open Coach — This was known to my friends who are many dogs
and they determined to attack me — So I provided 6 lb of
Comfits for this Sugar Plum War — They met me in the
midst of the crowded Coaches and I burst through their
Ranks — I was without a Mask to be more brave — I
began the attack — and they 4 in number began to fire away
like devils on each side of the Coach — but whilst I was
firing on the one side — they stormed the back on the other
and attempted to take my Sugar Plum Castle — but I beat
them off and from my great stock of Comfits — I was victorious
— we were at
this boys play for 18 Minutes — with a large shot of
delighted Statuaries — Mr Pondadson managed to hit me
more even than — Nobility and all the Nobility in these epo
Prince Leopold was at it every day — but the best part
talking under a Mask with a feigned voice — The fun
of this — nearly every persons hat & bonnet was taken — These are
continuetary just out to others with sticks — The mask is
kept in the light — We English Artistes behaved
badly during all this Carnival — one night we went
to the Theatre — I & us — with the objects of kicking
up a row — We took 3 Boxes and by way having each
of a company we broke the 3 into one Box
— that is we knocked out the sides — but we did not
get into prison for this is a jolly time in Rome — What
annoys is the great number of Soldiers employed to keep
order — The Italians don't mind them — they have lost all
notion of Liberty — You must know that I am quite
a Buck at last — I found myself too singular in not

being - to that when I dined out I took as much as any
- I dined the other day at Lady Westmorland's when
the only one with me at Table for cards - There were
Lady Mary Fitzpatrick - & 2 in all - I Ladies - I was much
pleased with the reception I had - was placed between
the Lady [illegible] and the Prince of Bavaria - I spoke Horse
to them - And the Ex- Lady &c - made me play Whist and Lansq
But I could not take the right Hand - This [illegible]

[illegible] Mr Brownrigg [illegible]
[illegible] Mr Brownrigg [illegible]
[illegible] Mr Brownrigg [illegible]